

Draft Introduced: May 31, 2017
Approved: June 15, 2017

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH

Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2017

401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Members Present: Brandie Armijo, Sean Bailey, Mitchell Berger, Ilana Cohen, Michelle Hawkins, Lenna Israbian-Jamgochian, Alan Kaplan, Jessica Kronstadt, Pierre Marie Longkeng, Kathy Mann Koepke, Linda McMillan, Susan Milstein, Sheela Modin, Daniel Russ and Tonya Saffer.

Members Absent: Laura Boyle, Brenda Brooks, Stacey Burton Dey Foy, Marla Caplon, Maya Das, Graciela Jaschek, Fabienne Santel, and Bridget Ware.

Staff Present: Mark Hodge, Ellen Segal, and Karen Thompkins.

Guest: Cindy Brach, Forrest Daniels, and Avner Shapiro.

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome

- Chair Daniel Russ called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2.0 COH Minutes and Next Meetings

- A motion to approve the April 2017 minutes was made by Brandie Armijo and seconded by Susan Milstein. The minutes were approved unanimously by voiced consent.
 - The next COH meeting will be Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at 401 Hungerford Drive, Conference Room 1A and B, Rockville, Maryland, 20850. The following meeting will be held July 20, 2017 at 401 Rockville Pike, Conference Room 1A and B, Rockville, Maryland.
- *Please note that there is no meeting in August.**

3.0 Guest Speaker – Avner Shapiro – Child Screening for Autism

Mr. Shapiro came to give a quick overview of the new commission he is putting together to advocate for screening for Autism. Below are a few highlights.

- M-CHAT is a tool used for screening infants for Autism.
- The most difference is made before the age of three.
- Mr. Shapiro would like to see every child screened, diagnosed, and referred for treatment while they are very young and treatment is most effective.
- Avner Shapiro is hoping once the commission to advocate for Autism is meeting, that COH will help advocate and support the commission.

4.0 Guest Speaker – Cindy Brach – A Whirlwind Tour of AHRQ Health Literacy Resources

- Cindy Brach is from the Center for Delivery, Organization, and Markets; Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).
- AHRQ:
 - Invests in research to understand how to make health care safer and improve on quality.
 - Creates materials to teach and train health care professionals and systems to improve care for their patients.

- Generates measures and data used to track and improve performance and evaluate progress of the US health system.
- Surveys done with low-income Californians showed that they would like more information, but want the information to be clear and easily accessible.
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has a toolkit for making written material clear and effective.
- There is also a Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool used to measure how easy material is to understand and act on.
- There is free online training to build skills:
 - NIH Plain Language
 - CDC Health Literacy for Public Health Professionals.
 - AHRQ Health Literacy Knowledge Self-Assessment for CME and MOC credit for pediatricians and family physicians.
- Use universal precautions and structure as if everyone may have limited health literacy. Address language barriers.
- Providers should use clear communication; eye contact; listen; use plain, non-medical language; slow down; limit content; repeat key points; show how it's done; use graphics; and invite patient participation. Also, use the teach-back method.
- A survey completed showed patients want to be involved in decision making.

5.0 Public Health Services Chief's Report-Karen Thompkins

- PHS will be working with the State Department of Health (formerly DHMH) on Zika. This year there will be larger canvassing, an increase in signage, more social media advertising, and continued testing and monitoring.
- Care for Kids (CFK) has seen no drop-off in clients.
- The Maternity Partnership Program numbers are not decreasing as much as previously; there is currently no funding problem.

6.0 County Council Report – Linda McMillan

- The Department of Health and Human Services was given additional funding for childhood services-expansion of school times for early childhood and kindergarten classes.
- Subsidies were added for lower income families.
- CFK and Behavioral Health both received more money.
- There is now funding for the Dental Health director position.
- There is an additional case manager for Health Care for the Homeless added.
- There is additional money for dental care for the homeless.
- Food security received and additional \$150K for weekend food bags for kids.
- Food security cold box for seniors is moving from three days to five days a week and will be expanding the number of weeks.
- A new bill was introduced that will no longer require lifeguard's present at Montgomery County hotel pools.

7.0 New Business

- An announcement went out for the COH vacancies. COH needs a chair and a vice chair. Jessica Kronstadt and Brandie Armijo are on the nomination committee for new members.
- Duties of the chair and vice chair include:
 - Provides testimony.
 - Meets with Karen Thompkins to prepare agenda and arrange for speakers.
 - Works with Karen to prepare the annual report for COH.
 - Drafts letters to County Council.

- Next month is the end of the annual year. It is time to make recommendations for the annual report. Workgroups should come up with concise recommendations.
- The COH is still in need of liaison's.
- The COH retreat is coming up in October. It is time to think about what we would like to see accomplished in the next year.

9.0 Motion to Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Thompkins".

Karen Thompkins
Commission on Health